

# MAKING THE CONNECTION

## TAKE ACTION

## Higher Education

Achieving alignment in advising practices at scale will take coordination among multiple players dedicated to student success. Those in closest proximity to students can emphasize and enact relational advising, while those who are further can simplify and codify procedural advising.

Too few communities are currently prioritizing aligned advising. There's a role for each player.

**Here's where to start in higher education:**

### GET STARTED

- Implement guided pathways with proactive, ongoing advising for first-year students.
- Dedicate institutional staff to coordinate partnerships across K-12 and higher education.
- Create a common application accepted by all statewide institutions, with no fees for low-income students.
- Create common financial aid award letters to enable students and families to compare across institutions.
- Eliminate or defer admissions depositions, particularly for low-income students.
- Provide direct support to high school students around FAFSA completion and financial aid, particularly for students of color, low-income students, and first-generation students.
- Reform school counselor preparation programs to center around college and career readiness, to expand the pipeline of diverse candidates, and to build capacity around serving students of color, low-income students, and first-generation students.

### GO BOLD

- Assign institutional advisors to local high schools to directly support students, particularly students of color, low-income students, and first-generation students, and maintain engagement through matriculation.
- Develop shared data and advising protocols between institutions and local districts.

